S.R. NO. 34

MAR 1 0 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF HAWAII'S SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GUANGDONG PROVINCE.

WHEREAS, the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism and its Office of International Affairs establish close working relationships with foreign governments to raise Hawaii's profile internationally, attract dynamic cooperative programs, and stimulate Hawaii's economy; and

WHEREAS, many of these relationships are sister-state programs that establish a partnership for mutual economic advantage and the potential for expanded cultural, educational, and government exchanges; and

WHEREAS, the sister-state relationship between Hawaii and China's Guangdong province was established in 1985, and these formal ties to the province have helped lead to Hawaii's success in developing an economic relationship with China; and

WHEREAS, Guangdong was Hawaii's first Chinese sister state because many early immigrants from China came to Hawaii from Guangdong, and over seventy-five per cent of people living in Hawaii can trace their ancestral roots back to the Guangdong province; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the first president of China, studied at Iolani and Punahou schools and was born in Zhongshan City in Guangdong; and

WHEREAS, through the sister-state relationship, the Guangdong Province Senior Executive Leadership Training Program was established at the University of Hawaii in 1999 by the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and the University of Hawaii College of Business Administration; and

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WHEREAS, Hawaii and Guangdong maintain a mutually beneficial, cooperative relationship furthered by a continuing exchange of delegations to further the cultural and economic exchange; and

WHEREAS, former Governor Linda Lingle visited the Guangdong province to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the sister-state relationship; and

WHEREAS, former Governor Neil Abercrombie met with Guangdong province Governor Zhu Xiaodan, who traveled to Hawaii to discuss plans to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the sister-state relationship in September of 2014; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, hereby commemorates the thirtieth anniversary of sister-state relationship between Hawaii and the Guangdong province; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the United Chinese Society, See Dai Doo Society, Teo Chew Society, and the Governor of Guangdong province.

Steen Chun alband

Sicer Kelrela

Breene Vai

Will Epro

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